

US Army Corps of Engineers.

Vicksburg District 4155 Clay Street Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435 www.mvk.usace.army.mil



## **Public Notice**

APPLICATION NO.: ADS-MVK-2006-980

EVALUATOR: Mr. Arel Simpson

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E-MAIL: regulatory@mvk02.usace.army.mil

DATE: January 19, 2007

EXPIRATION DATE: February 9, 2007

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services are considering an application for a Department of the Army permit and State water quality certification for the work described herein. A water quality certification is required in accordance with statutory authority contained in the LRS 30:2074 A(3) and provisions of the Clean Water Act. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, Attention: CEMVK-OD-F, at the above address, and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, Post Office Box 4313, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has a copy of the application on file in their office in Baton Rouge and may be inspected at any time between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Copies may be obtained from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality upon payment of cost of printing. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality will make a final decision on the water quality certification pertaining to this application within 30 days after expiration of this notice.

Law Requiring a Permit: Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), which applies to structures or work in navigable waters of the United States and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), which applies to discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

Name of Applicant: C/O Mr. Ron Riley P.O. Drawer 1303 Ruston, Louisiana 71273 Name of Agent:
Mr. Tom Bourland & Associates, LLC
9847 Neesonwood Drive
Shreveport, Louisiana 71106

Location of Work: Sections 22 and 23, T20N-R1E, latitude 32°42'34"N, longitude 92°20'24"W, within the Bayou D'Arbonne drainage basin, Union Parish, Farmerville, Louisiana.

Description of Work: (See enclosed map and drawings.)

The following descriptions of the proposed project and associated impacts are based upon information provided by the applicant.

The applicant is applying for a Department of the Army permit to conduct regulated activities within Bayou D'Arbonne. These activities are associated with the construction of an alternative spillway and discharge channel at the Lake D'Arbonne dam.

The project purpose is to reduce flooding frequency of structures along the shoreline of Lake D'Arbonne, while minimizing the effect on wildlife habitat.

Lake D'Arbonne has approximately 1,800 square miles of watershed. The lake covers approximately 16,000 at a normal pool elevation of 80 feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD). The lake is a manmade impoundment formed by an earthen dam located in Bayou D'Arbonne. The lake has an open spillway with an elevation of 80 feet NGVD.

The project would involve the construction of an upstream approach apron, two Tainter Gates, and an outlet channel. The approach apron would be approximately 45 feet wide and constructed of reinforced concrete. The sides of the approach apron would also be constructed of reinforced concrete. The sides of the approach apron would curve out and connect to the earthen embankment and fortified with riprap to prevent erosion.

Each Tainter Gate would be approximately 40 feet wide and approximately 10 feet in depth with a crest elevation of 80.0 feet NGVD. Each Tainter Gate would be constructed on concrete reinforced pylons. The pylons are used as pivot points to raise and lower the gate to control lake outflow during heavy rain events. The gate sill would have a crest elevation of 70.0 feet NGVD.

The project would also involve the construction of an outlet channel directly below and connected to the gates. The outlet channel would consist of a spillway, stilling basin, and discharge chute. The spillway would be constructed of reinforced concrete. The stilling basin and discharge chute would be constructed of reinforced concrete with a bottom elevation of 45.0 feet NGVD.

The stilling basin and discharge chute would have training side walls of reinforced concrete. The perimeter of the entire structure would be fortified with designed rip-rap ranging from Class 100 to Class 500 or articulated concrete blocks. The entire project would require 8,000 cubic yards of concrete and 1,900 cubic yards of rip-rap.

The entire structure would be supported by a system of concrete and timber pilings. A series of alignment markers would be strategically placed to monitor movements throughout the project. The subsurface of the project would be protected by sheet pile and under-drain system to minimize the effects of hydrostatic pressure.

A lighted walkway would be used to provide access to both sides of the structure. These lights would provide lighting to allow night time operation and a visual indicator of the structure for watercraft to avoid. A pontoon barrier would be used to inhibit water craft from entering the structure from upstream or downstream areas. A warning siren would be provided to warn downstream watercraft of impending gate operation.

The spillway would be maintained by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD). The Bayou D'Arbonne Lake Watershed Commission would request any opening of the gates by the LADOTD, when the lake elevation reaches 84.0 NGVD. The project would be funded by the State of Louisiana through LADOTD.

The project site contains a total of approximately 67 acres. There are a total of approximately 36.38 acres of jurisdictional wetlands within the project site. The project would impact approximately 1.6 acres of jurisdictional wetlands and approximately 6.03 acres of other waters of the United States.

The vegetation on the wetland impact site consists of bald cypress, willow oak, overcup oak, American snowbell, buttonbush, water elm, lizard's tail, redvine, sweetgum, black gum, American

hornbeam, sparkleberry, redbay, deciduous holly, switchgrass, dog bane, and southern waxmyrtle.

The placement of dredged and/or fill material in wetlands and other waters of the United States associated with the mechanized land clearing requires a Department of the Army Permit.

Upon reviewing this notice, you should write to this office to provide your opinion of the impacts this work will have on the natural and human environment and address any mitigation you believe is necessary to offset these impacts. Other comments are welcome, but the above information will further our review of the applicant's plan as proposed. Comments of a general nature are not as helpful as those specific to the impacts of the subject project.

State Water Quality Permit: The State Pollution Control Agency must certify that the described work will comply with the State's water quality standards and effluent limitations before a Corps permit is issued.

Cultural Resources: An initial review indicates that the proposed project would not affect any of the sites in Union Parish listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Copies of this notice have been sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer, Federally Recognized Tribes, the Corps Regulatory Archaeologist, and other interested parties for comment on potential effects to cultural resources that could result from this activity. In a letter dated June 29, 2006, Ms. Pam Breaux, the State Historic Preservation Officer, stated that no known archaeological sites or historic properties would be affect by the project.

Endangered Species: Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect any endangered species or their critical habitat. This proposal is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and any comments regarding endangered species or their critical habitat will be addressed in our evaluation of the described work.

Flood Plain: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Flood Plain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. Flood plain administrators should review the proposed development described in this public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements.

Evaluation Factors: The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its expected adverse effects. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use classification, navigation, recreation, water supply, water quality, energy needs, safety, food requirements and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the proposed activity will include application of the guidelines published by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Public Involvement: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. These comments will be used to evaluate the impacts of this project. All comments will be considered and used to help determine whether to issue the permit, deny the permit, or issue the permit with conditions, and to help us determine the amount and type of mitigation necessary. This information will be used in our Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing.

Opportunity for a Public Hearing: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on this notice will be interpreted to mean that there is no objection to the proposed work. Please bring this announcement to the attention of anyone you know who might be interested in this matter.

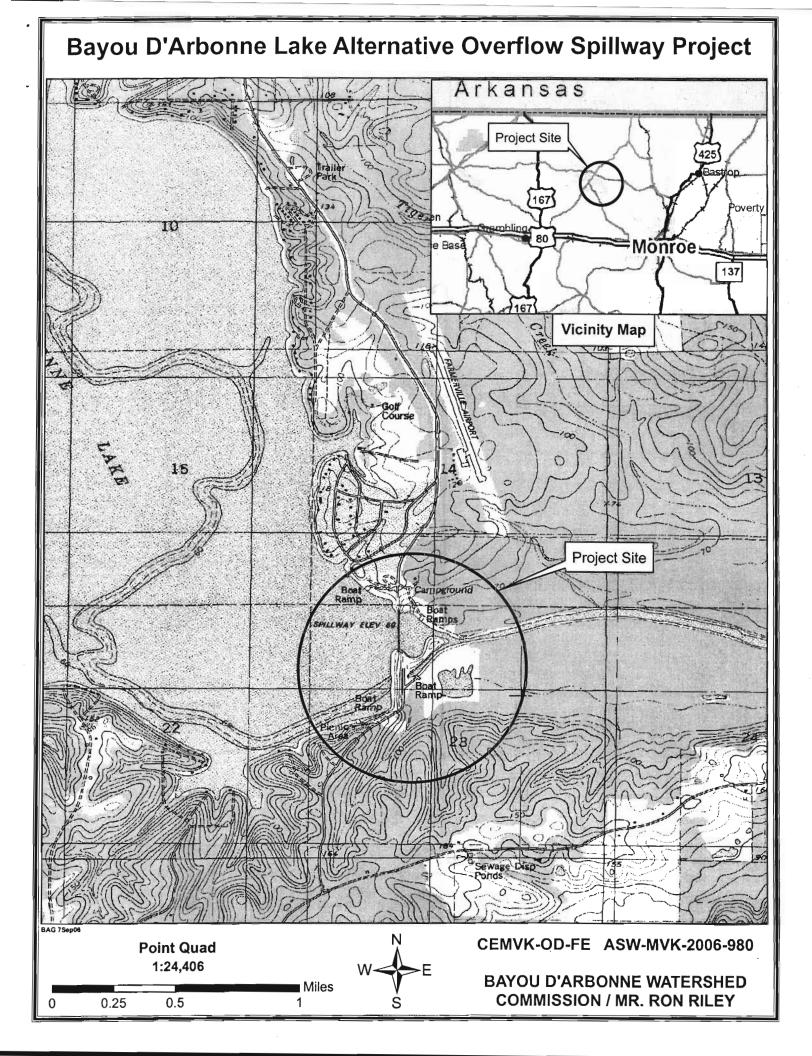
Notification of Final Permit Actions: Each month, the final permit actions from the preceding month are published on the Vicksburg District Regulatory web page. To access this information, you may follow the link from the Regulatory web

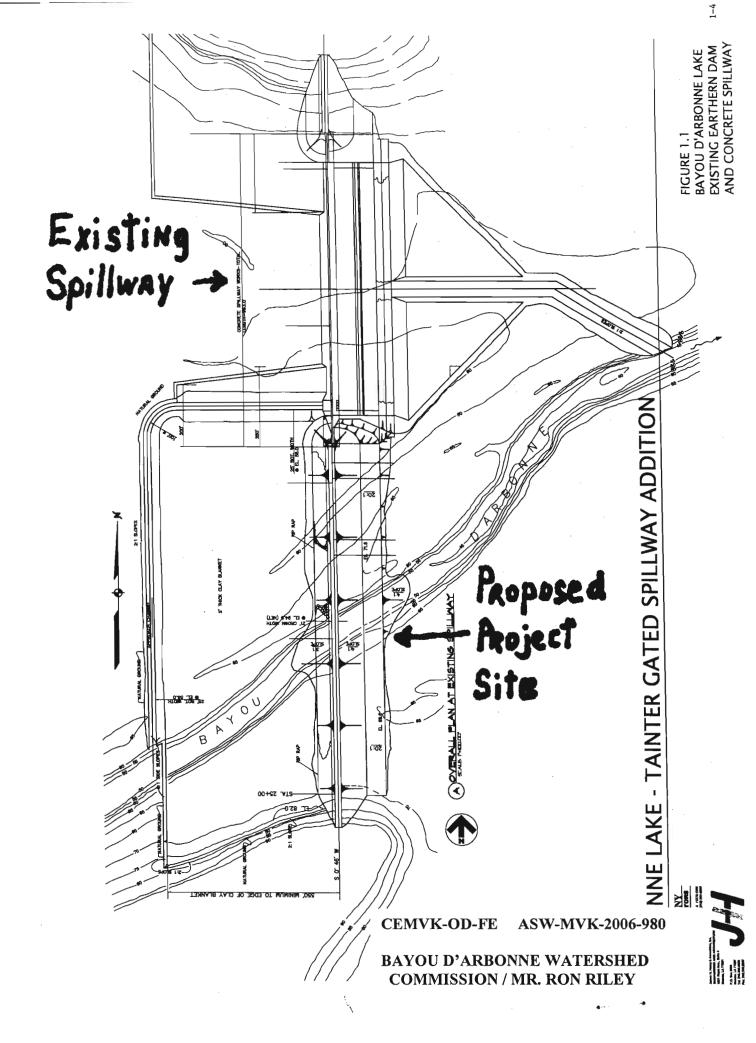
page, <a href="http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/main.asp">http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/main.asp</a>, or go directly to the Final Permit Actions web page at <a href="http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/PubNotice/Monthly">http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/PubNotice/Monthly</a> <a href="http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/Monthly">http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/PubNotice/Monthly</a> <a href="http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/PubNotice/Monthly">http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/PubNotice/Monthly</a> <a href="http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/PubNotice/Monthly">http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/PubNotice/Monthly</a> <a href="http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/od

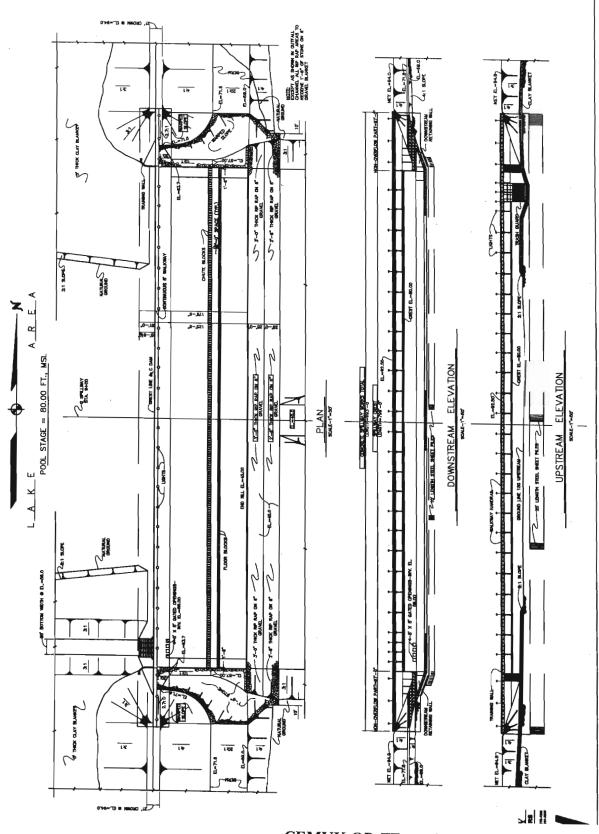
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Anne Woerner
Acting Chief, Evaluation Section

Regulatory Branch

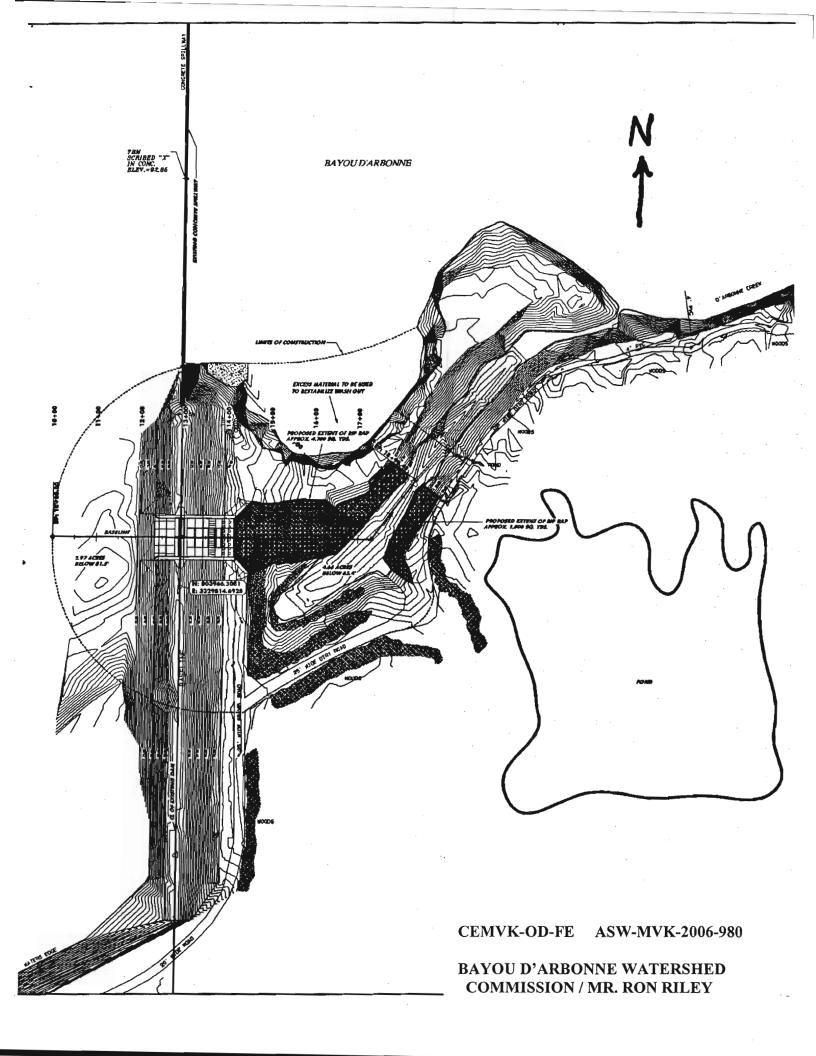


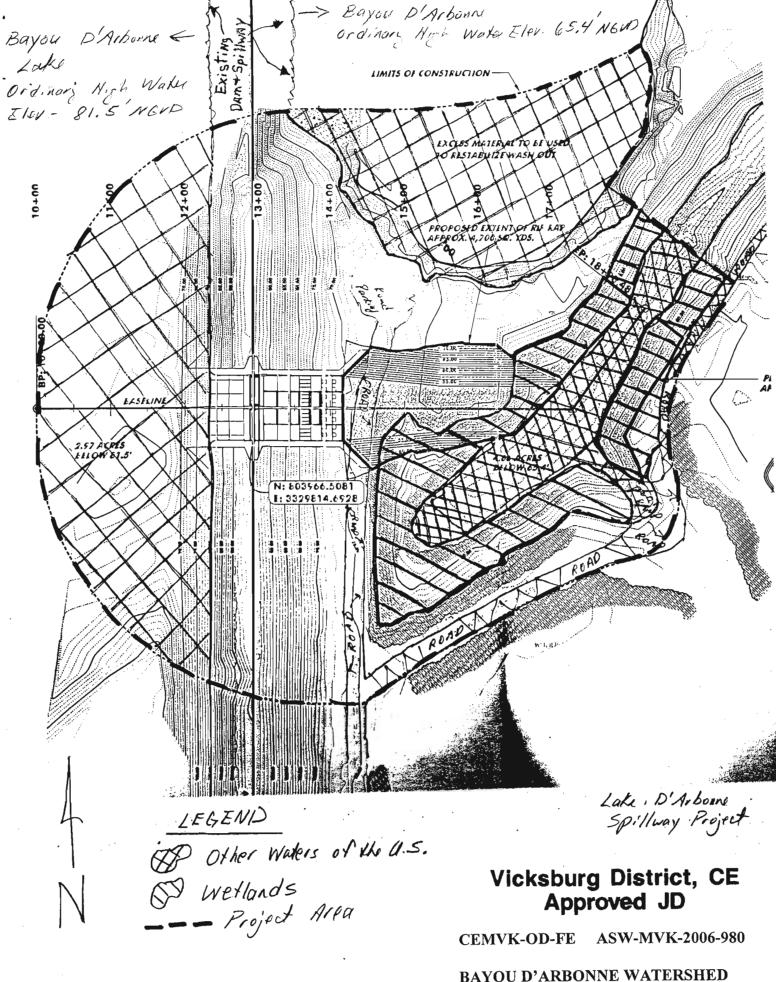




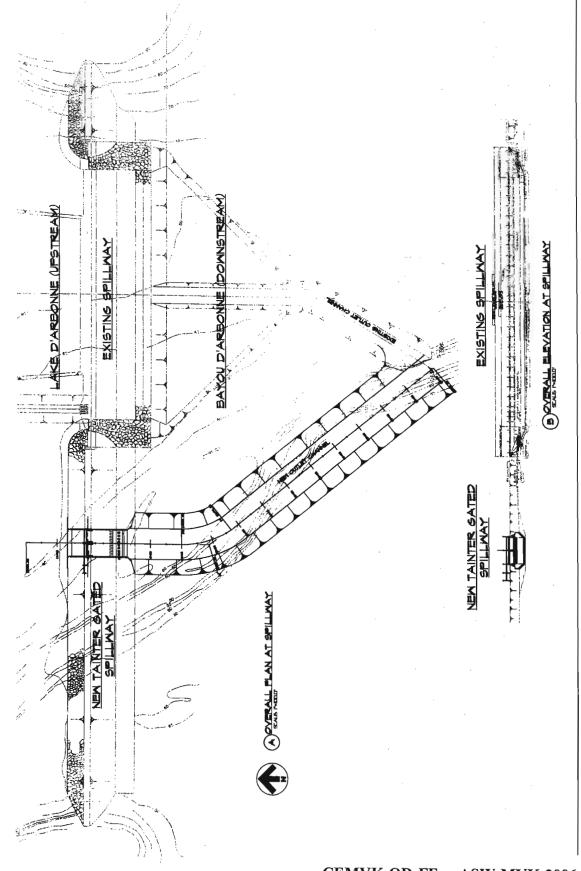
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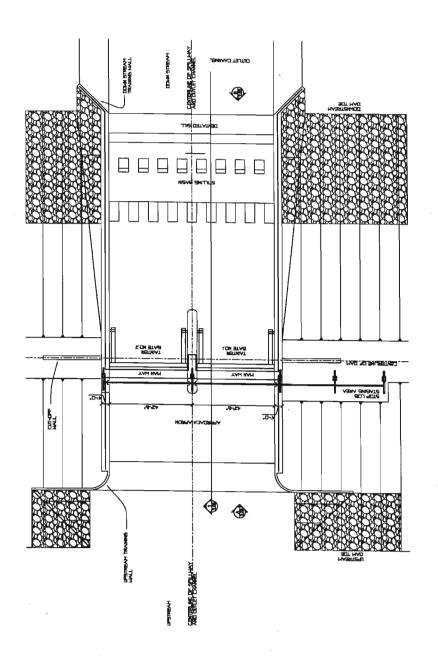


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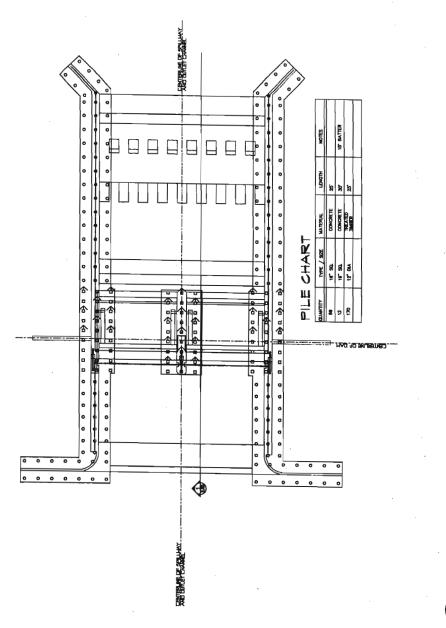


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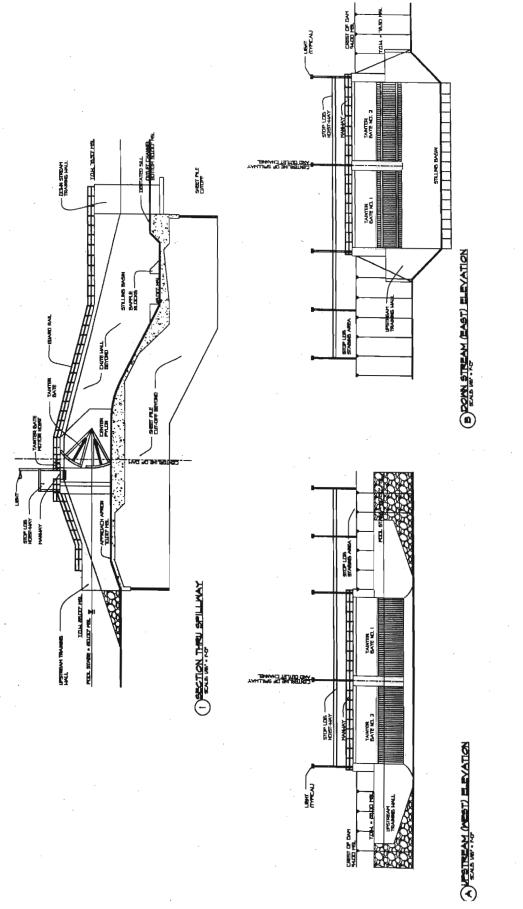
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